

Acushnet Fire Chief releases statement about town's COVID-19 patients and residents' show of solidarity

"I know that I'm not alone in trying to figure this week out! There has been an air of anxiety hanging over all of us made worse by the weather, the unending news and a sense that, as Winston Churchill once said, 'This is the beginning of the beginning.' Patience is often running low while stress is running high.

"Acushnet learned this week that four residents have contracted the Covid-19 virus. In a small town that hurts, as these folks are our extended family members. Collectively, we pray for them and hope their road to a full recovery is quick and complete. Their worry and concern is ours.

"As a town entity, we are prepared. Personnel Protective Equipment is available to our first responders. Facilities and equipment are getting disinfected and disinfected again. Your essential employees are on the job providing services while taking precautions. Buildings may be closed and hours reduced but the ball has not been dropped. We are all thankful that these folks continue to daily work on our behalf, as a community.

"Windows and mailboxes are being decorated with hearts and rainbows. Neighbors are checking in with neighbors. Businesses and individuals have donated N95 masks. Many people are making homemade masks that are provided to our staff. Residents are sending food to Police and Fire stations. Puzzles are being shared by neighbors. Acushnet is being kind, thoughtful and caring.

"We chose to live and work here. We stay because this is our community. We care because we are – despite our wonderful differences – truly all the same.

"Acushnet is nervous, on edge and antsy. We should be. We also know that every storm runs out of rain, that when this is behind us we will resume life in this fantastic little town a little more humble, a little kinder and a little more thankful for everything we have.

"Please stay safe."

With respect and appreciation,

Kevin"